

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed on January 26, 2010. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-22 are pending in this application, where claims 1 and 12 are independent.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging receipt and consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement filed on August 4, 2006. Applicant further respectfully requests the Examiner to acknowledge the claim for priority and receipt of certified copies of all the priority document(s).

In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 6-13 and 15-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0042499 (Piercy) in view of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Standards, 802.3afTM (802.3af). Further, claims 4-5 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Piercy in view of 802.3af and U.S. Patent No. 6,226,515 (Pauli). Applicant respectfully traverses and submits that claims 1-22 are patentable over Piercy, 802.3af and Pauli for at least the

following reasons.

Piercy is directed to a method of synchronizing equipment at LAN nodes that includes "transmitting a timing signal over the LAN via a dedicated conductor of each LAN cable that is not otherwise used for normal LAN signalling." (Piercy, page 2, claim 12, lines 2-4; emphasis added)

Similar to Piercy 802.3af shows on page 30, FIG 33-4 four dedicated pairs of wires, where two wire pairs are dedicated to data signals, and two wire pairs are dedicated to power signals.

It is respectfully submitted that Piercy, 802.3af, and combination thereof, do not disclose or suggest the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claim 12 which, amongst other patentable elements, recites (illustrative emphasis provided):

providing to at least one pair of the first and second pairs of twisted wires a series of synchronization pulses generated from a synchronization source and capacitively-coupled to the said at least one pair of twisted wires so as to supply a composite signal that includes the series of synchronization pulses and at least one of the positive and negative D.C. voltage rails to a first end of said at least one pair of twisted wires.

Piercy, 802.3af, and combination thereof, do not even disclose or suggest any composite signal on common wires, let alone

disclosing or suggesting to capacitively couple synchronization pulses on a rail voltage to form the composite signal that includes the synchronization pulses and rail voltage over a common pair of twisted wires, as recited in independent claim 1 and 12. Rather, any data signals in Piercy and 802.3af are transmitted on dedicated wires separate from wires that carry power. That is, in Piercy and 802.3af, data or timing signals are carried on wires that are different from wires that carry power. Pauli is cited to allegedly show other features and does not remedy the deficiencies in Piercy and 802.3af

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 12 are allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-11 and 13-22 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 1 and 12, as well as their individually patentable elements. Accordingly, separate consideration of each of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

For example, "synchronization pulses [that] are output only after a predetermined rail voltage has been detected," as recited in claim 22, are nowhere disclosed or suggested in Piercy, 802.3af,

Pauli, and combinations thereof. Rather, 802.3af merely discloses on page 32, section 33.2.3.1, to "turn on power after a valid detection in less than T_{pon} ." (802.3af, page 32, section 33.2.3.1, line 2; emphasis added) Turning on power after a valid detection has nothing to do, and does not disclose or suggest outputting synchronization pulses after a predetermined rail voltage has been detected, as recited in claim 22.

In addition, Applicant denies any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicant reserves the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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